THE NATIONAL ERA.

For the National Era. THE HABEAS CORPUS IN VERMONT.

A good deal of patriotic bluster has been expended, through the newspapers and otherwise, at the action of the Vermont Legislature, in the passage of "An act relating to the writ of habear corpus to persons claimed as fugitive slaves, and the right of trial by jury." This act of Vermont has been characterized as nullification, and de-nounced as unconstitutional. I hold it to be neither the one nor the other. Let us briefly ex-1. It applies only to "inhabitants" of the State

arrested or claimed as fugitive slaves.

2. It is made the duty of the several State's ttorneys "diligently and faithfully to use all lawful means to protect, defend, and procure to be discharged, every such person so arrested or claimed as a fugitive slave.

3. The mode provided is by a habeas corpus

returnable to the supreme or county court, if in session; if not, to one of the judges, with an apeal to the county court by the inhabitant claimed as a slave, upon the furnishing of bail
4. The court shall, on application of either party, "allow and direct a trial by jury in all

uestions of fact in issue between the parties. The above are all the provisions of the act which bear upon the question of its constitutionality. Upon which observe, that in applying only to "inhabitants," it applies to those only who are the subjects of the Government of the State, and to whom consequently she owes protection-men and women prima facie free, "born according to the Declaration of Independence." A State, with-out the power to afford this protection to its inhabitants, is not sovereign; without the will, is

Again observe, that the State's attorney is restriced to the use of "lawful" means to procure the discharge of his brother "inhabitant." He shall procure the issuing of a habeas corpus. If the Fugitive law suspends or nullifies the habeas corpus, it is itself a nullity, as conflicting with the Constitution. If, as is claimed by Mr. Attorney General Crittenden and other advocates of the Fugitive law, the habeas corpus is not thereby sus-pended, then the Vermont act violates herein neither law nor Constitution.

Again observe, that on the virtue of the writ a

trial by jury is to be had only in case there be questions of fact in issue between the parties."
The Attorney General holds, that the exhibition of the certificate of the commissioner, ad-judging the man to be a fugitive slave, would be the habeas corpus. Possibly a Vermont court, bound up in the dogma that "that is property which the law declares to be property," might hold, with the Attorney General, 28 so, they would probably decide that there was no question of fact for the jury to try, unless possibly the genuineness of the certificate. If, however, the law should not hold the certificate to be conclusive, but should call for the "bill of sale from the Almighty," or, treating the whole question as an open one, should ward a trial by jury to try the whole issue, such fecision would be based upon principles entirely outside of any provisions of the Vermont act since that act undertakes in no degree or particular to control or direct the judicial determination

of any of the questions in issue.
In this attempt of Vermont, therefore, to fulfil her obligations of protection to her own inhabit-ants, there can be found no just ground for im-peachment of her fidelity to the Union and the

We are told by the letter-writers that this action of the Vermont Legislature is repudiated by her Congressional delegation; and certain Silver Gray organs at home find it to their purpose to impugn the law, or, what is worse, to frame apolgies for the Legislature for having passed it. Yet of one thing men in or out of Congress may be well assured, that no law will be found to be firmer fastened to the body of Vermont legisla-tion than this one; and, further, that Vermont has a rod in pickle for the graceless son that shall be caught, with many or few, easting dirt in the face of the mother that bore him.

A VERMONTER.

THINGS IN RHODE ISLAND.

EAST GREENWICH, R. I., January 6, 1851. To the Editor of the National Era:

DEAR SIR: Allow me to communicate a word Plantations," as our own wise legislators have seen fit to call it. In many respects this State has been marked by peculiarities, and these are still perpetuated. Before the Revolution, the King granted a Charter, which the people recognised as their supreme law, till the time of Governor Dorr of famous memory, in 1842. From this, one would infer that we are a very law-abiling and conservative people. That we are conservative enough is certain; for it is wrought into the nature of all Rhode Islanders to follow in the tracks of their fathers; and a new proposition in any public matter would be considered social infidelity, and would be punishable with political martyrdom. This following the beaten track almost thirty years; and if a man once gets into any office there, he may stay till the day of doom, if he will let the laws execute themselves. But if you infer that we are a law-abiding people you are mistaken, unless you mean by law-abiding, just what we mean by "law and order." That is, letting the law abide in utter contempt. We have now as good laws, with a few important exceptions, as any State in the Union; but still, every one may be easily evaded, and that by the direct countenance of the Legislature. A very common thing it is for the Legislature virtually to set aside the decisions of the State courts; and no civil case can ever be considered finally set-tled. It may go on, by appeal, from court to Court, till it is decided in the highest, and then it may come up to the Legislature by petition, and be reversed, or remanded back to the courts, to come up again on petition indefinitely.

We have an excellent code of school laws, and

yet a town, or district, or individual, may set them at defiance, and petition to the Assembly, and he will be absolved. And so of almost anything in the Statute Book. In fact, in Rhode there is, comparatively speaking, little general legislation. It is all particular. A rule or law is made to meet a particular case, or if made general, it is so often rendered null by special vote, or by remitting the penalty, that only a case in ten years or so will be really reached

Another thing very peculiar is our "ballot."
This is a real curiosity. Every man who votes
by ballot is obliged to put his name on the back of
the vote. This is, ostensibly, to prevent fraud and bribery. It is really amusing to watch the polls, and see how narrowly the votes are inspected after they are deposited; and, in a town I could name, I have seen men compelled to withdraw a ballot, and replace it by another. We can never hope for much progress in reform here, till this is changed, and the ballot-box is made to tell but this single thing, whom or what you vote for. Now, men are really afraid to vote their sentiments, and they can be led in any manner by those whose power they fear. The Democrats and Free-Soilers have commenced to agitate this subject, and you need not expect to hear of any decided progress in favor of freedom or reform, till this engine of aristocratic power is broken. Rhode engine of artetocratic power is broken. Knode Island wealth is now principally employed in cotton manufacturing and in banking. These cotton corporations can, by means of the ballot which we have, control all their employees who can vote; and hence, in our State, cotton rules emphatically. Yet it is even now compelled to resort to bribery the most open and shameless, in order to secure its ends. As soon as this last relic of the old charter dynasty is swept away, you may look for a change.

We have, and must from our own base habits

have, a very careless and in fact good-for-nothing legislative and executive authority. No man's election to any office of importance can be secured without money, either the candidate's own or his friends? The high-minded and just will not be candidates under these circumstances. And when the bad or second or third rate are elected, the compensation is only about half enough to support them. Representatives get one dollar per day while the sessions continue; and their board and other expenses are not less than two. They therefore hurry business, and even then, with their expenses to get elected, pay very high for their honors at the

The present Governor, H. B Anthony, editor of the Providence Journal, is quite popular among the people, and is thought to be somewhat in advance of his party on some of these matters; but it will hardly answer for him to bring such things into his paper. He does now and then speak out a bold word against the Fugitive Slave bill, and the do-nothing and hate-progress spirit of Congress. He is a talented man, and may (if he does not continue too long an editor of a party organ)

ocracy could not do better in the State. Simmons is a man of great organizing talent, and would do much to advance the good of the nation. The present Cheap Postage law owes much to his ability and zeal for its final passage through the Senate; and he is understood to be in favor of a still lower reduction of postage duties. He is also a hard worker, and so shrewd that nothing is impossible to him which sleepless toil and keen calculation can accomplish. Governor Anthony is also talked of for the place, and he would, in all probability, honor it and benefit the State. Who also talked of for the place, and he would, in all probability, honor it and benefit the State. Who will be elected, cannot be told. We do not, how-ever, expect any one who will make himself con-spicuous for a decided stand in favor of freedom or any radical reform. Simmons would accomplish much for Cheap Postage or Tariff modificaion; Anthony would be most likely to act for freedom-both, in my opinion, have too much talent and too much political honesty to be elected. It will doubtless be some Cotton man, who will be sure to follow the good old customs of Rhode Island, and "let well enough alone." A better motto is, Keep well enough in constant action; but unfortunately the State lets it alone, and it dies of

Yours, very respectfully, RICHARD RINGWOOD. course. More anon, if you please.

PUBLIC MEETINGS AT THE NORTH. MASS MEETING IN CAMDEN, LORAIN COUN-TY, OHIO.

[ABRIDGED] Pursuant to previous notice, the citizens of Camden, without distinction of party, assembled on Thursday evening, the 21st of November, for the discussion of the late Fugitive Slave bill. The meeting being organized by calling Elam Hill to the Chair, and appointing A. J. Hinman

Secretary-On motion, Rev. A. D. Low, Mr. William

sense of the meeting.

The Fagitive bill having been read by Rev. G.
G. Edwards, the committee on resolutions returned the following report:
Resolved, That the late set of the American

Congress, usually denominated the Fugitive Slave bill, is such a self-evident violation of natural right, of the provisions of the American Consti-tution, and the "higher law" of the living God, that, so far from being entitled to the obedience of all "good citizens," is entitled only to the execrations of all good men.

Resalved, That those members of Congress who contributed to the passage of said bill, either by

voting, silence, or desertion, are unworthy of the Confidence of the American People.

The meeting was addressed by Rev. Messrs.
Low, Edwards, and Abbot, and the resolutions

FREE SOIL CONVENTION IN IOWA. [ABRIDGED]

The State Free Soil Convention met at Yellow Springs on the 30th of October, pursuant to xt ournment, and temporarily organized by ap-pointing Rev. E. Thompson President, and Elicur Porter Secretary.
On motion, Dr. G. Shedd. S. L. Howe, and E. Porter, were appointed a committee to prepare business for the Convention, and report during

ts next sitting. Convention adjourned till 2 o'clock. At 2 o'clock, Convention met and organized permanently by appointing George Shedd Presi-dent; H. A. Ritner, Clark Alexander, and Wiliam McClure, Vice Presidents; and W. H. An-

derson, Secretary.
On motion, S. Rankin, L. Anderson, E. Jessop. and D. G. Cartwright, were added to the business committee. The committee reported the resolutions found

below, which, after free, full, and fair discussion, were unanimously adopted.

On motion, the Convention adjourned to meet in Salem, on the 3d Thursday in November. GEORGE SHEDD, President.

W. II. Anderson, Secretary. 2. Resolved, That the late Fugitive bill, as it has passed Congress, demonstrates, what Free-Soilers have so long and so often declared, that Slavery and Freedom cannot long exist together.

5. Resolved, That this bill, in offering a bribe human mind first awoke from the slumber of ages,

vention, no upright minded man and Christian.

no lover of liberty and justice, in these free and enlightened States of our Union will even except.

States, which have extended their arts and manenlightened States of our Union will even except. or retain the office of commissioner under this law, to do its bidding.

ing to the recapture of the fugitive-which allows any pretending claimant or his agent to seize any person whom he may choose, and wherever he can, "with or without process"—which compels an officer under the law to serve such process, when tendered to him, under a penalty of \$1,000— and which, in case of an escape from custody, whether with or against the will of said officer, compels him to pay the full value of the fugitive so escaping—which allows pro tempore marshals to be appointed in any and every community, for the convenience and at the bidding of men-hunters— and, finally, which allows all officers to call out shop, and the physician, lawyer, and minister of the Gospel, from their studies, requiring the same, as good citizens, to be obedient and active in the hunt and chase—surpasses in effrontery and insult to Christian freemen, in our opinion, any act of legislation that has stained the annals

of our country.

9. Resolved, That we adhere to the principles laid down in the Buffalo Platform, as being the great principles of the Free Soil party; and that we insist as strenuously as ever on the application of the Jefferson Proviso to the Territories, the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and the entire separation of the General Government from the responsibility of extending, sustaining, or perpetuating the institution of sla-

Jones, and our Representative, Leffler, in voting for this infamous Texas Boundary bill, and the more infamous Fugitive Slave law, have shown themselves unworthy to be the representatives of freemen and Christians, and ought hereafter to be permitted by the people of lows to remain in private obscurity, for which they have proved themselves much better fitted than to be the representatives of a free peeple.

Pursuant to notice, a public meeting was held on Friday, December 6, 1850, in the New Bethel Church, Eden. Matthew Chambers was called to the Chair, and Adam Marshall chosen Secre-tary. Rev. James Milligan led in prayer. The object of the meeting was stated by Rev. James Wallace; it was to express the sentiments

of this community in relation to the Fugitive The Chair, according to a vote of the meeting,

appointed a committee of five, consisting of Revs. J. Milligan, J. Gibson, Dr. R. W. Marshall, J. N. Coleman, and R. Brown, to report resolutions expressive of the sense of this meeting.

The meeting was then addressed by Rev. Mr.

Nevin, who contrasted the Fugitive Law with the laws of the Bible and with the provisions of the United States Constitution.

The Committee reported resolutions which were unanimously adopted; among them the fol-

1. Resolved, That the Fugitive Slave Law is opposed to express constitutional provisions, and therefore a nullity.

2 Resolved, That it is anti-christian; of course we will oppose it, and employ all lawful means for 3 Resolved, That those members of Congre who voted for this infamous bill, or evaded a vote thereon, have forfeited all claim to the respect or

support of a free and liberty-loving people.

4. Resolved, That we will vote for no public officer who will not pledge himself to vote for its

We consider the recently enacted Fugitive Slave Law as a most offensive mode of doing an

unrighteous thing. Because—
First. The power to decide definitely, and without appeal, whether an alleged fugitive is a freeman or a slave, is, by this law, vested in a single commissioner, appointed by the lower courts, which commissioner may possess no other qualification for the office than a willingness to serve—such commissioner, moreover, acting constantly under the influence of a bribe to decide

sgainst the alleged fugitive.

Second. The question of freedom and perpetual bondage is to be decided on experie testimony, taken perhaps in a distant State, and with no opportunity of cross-examining the witnesses, or

opportunity of cross-examining the witnesses, or of introducing rebutting testimony.

Third. Northern freemen are by this act forbidden to exercise the duties of humanity and hespitality to a whole class of merely suspected persons—suspected, too, only of the crime of wishing to be free—nay, more, are commanded by the law to become active assistants in a work which they believe to be expressly forbidden by the higher law of God—Deut. xxiii, 15.

Fourth. By this law, no colored person at the

gitive Slave Law places him) to defend himself, even, if need be, with violence, inasmuch as he is, by the operation of this law, placed beyond all rotection common to civilized society, and is thereby thrown back upon those rights which be ong to man in a state of nature, or before society

For the National Era. RELATIONS BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS. AND THE

Proper Mode of Establishing Justice among then

No. 2.—Ordenls by Fire and Water-Trial by Judicial Combat, and the Modern Trial by Battle.

When the arts of reading and writing were almost universally unknown, and the laws of evidence entirely undeveloped, great scope for fraud and falsehood existed at the judicial tribunals. To adjust the conflicting claims of litigant parties by carefully sifting and accurately balancing the contradictory testimonies of witnesses, was a process too subtle for the courts of the middle ages. Neither the jurists had ability to master, nor the people civilization to appreciate, the trial by evi-On motion, Rev. A. D. Low, Mr. William dence. Hence, various methods less intricate Grant, and Nicholas R. Hill were appointed a were resorted to for determining justice between committee to report resolutions expressive of the | individuals. Such were the famous ordeals by fire and water, which formed so prominent a part of the jurisprudence of our ancestors. Thus innocence was frequently tested, according to prescribed forms, by making the accused walk blindfold and barefoot over nine red-hot plowshares, laid at un-equal distances, or plunge his naked arm to the elbow in a boiling cauldron. If he escape unhurt, he was pronounced acquitted by the judgment of

> These were the legitimate fruits of the superstitious notions then universally prevalent, that a formal appeal to Heaven will invariably secure s decision of the question at issue in accordance with unerring and impartial justice. Moreover, the martial spirit of the times combined with this dogma to establish the trial by combat in every kingdom of Europe. In treating of this antiquity, I cannot do better than to follow Robertson, to whose able "View of the State of Europe" I refer whose able "view of the state of Europe" I reference to the state of Europe. I reference to the statements made concrining both this custom and that of private War. He observes: "Not only questions about uncertain or contested facts, but general and abstract points in law were descripted by the issue of a combat; and the latter was deemed a method of discovering truth more liberal as well as wel discovering truth more liberal, as well as more satisfactory, than that by investigation and ar-

> "The solemnities of a judicial combat were such as were natural in an action, which was considered both as a formal appeal to God, and as the final decision of questions of the highest moment. Every circumstance relating to them was regulated by the edicts of princes, and explained in

> the comments of lawyers, with a minute and even superstitious accuracy.
>
> By this barbarous custom, the natural course of proceeding, both in civil and criminal questions, was entirely perverted; force usurped the place of equity in courts of judicature, and justice was banished from her proper mansion. Discernment, learning, integrity, were qualities less ne-cessary to a judge, than bodily strength and dexterity in the use of arms. Daring courage, and superior vigor or address, were of more moment towards securing the favorable issue of a suit, than the equity of a cause, or the clearness of the

From the commencement of the twelfth century we date the origin and successive advancements of modern civilization. Hence, it is now some-what more than seven hundred years since the very name of jurisprudence.

6. Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Coning into a system; the petty baronies of Europe ners over both hemispheres; men have gradually adopted new maxims concerning the redress of private injuries and the maintenance of personal rights; equal and general laws have been found to operate more happily than the caprices of passion and the wild outbursts of revenge; cynicy has proved to be a better arbiter than force; citizens, their personal and reciprocal rights having been thoroughly defined and established, have been placed on a better footing in respect to each other; and those customs, which formerly were considered to be "the happiest efforts of wise policy," the highest privilege of nobility, and the distinguishing mark of personal independence, have been hunted out of Christendom by omnipresent Law, and vetoed

for all time by the still more terrible voice of puntage But whilst through successive centuries the public mind has been gradually moving over the great field of jurisprudence, tracing out in its movements a labyrinth extremely difficult for even jurists at present to retrace, hardly the first step has yet been taken in the march of international civilization. The great Christian Powers of the nineteenth century stand to-day upon essentially the same footing with respect to each other, as did the old Feudal barons a thousand years ago. Like the latter, they claim to be independent, and scorn submission to any legal tribunal. Like the latter, they consider force a better arbiter than reason, and generally submit their controversies to the trial by battle. Like the latter, they solemnly appeal to Heaven to aid their arms, superstitiously deeming this to be a certain mode of discovering justice. Like the latter, by the issue of a combat, they determine, not only "uncertain or contested facts," but also "general and abstract points in law;" and this form of trial they "conduct with many devout ceremonies, the ministers of religion being employed, and the Almighty being called upon to interpose" for the adjustment of the con-troversy. Furthermore, that contending parties should be judges in their own cause, that the law of honor requires its subjects to maintain with the sword whatever their lips have affirmed, that it is necessary for each to redress his own wrongs and defend his own liberties, are maxims which disappeared from the judgement seat when reason became arbiter in the place of force; yet false and barbarous as they are, they constitute important canons in that system, according to which, the mutual acts and intercourse of Governments continue to be regulated. TO BE CONTINUED

From the Friend of Youth. CLEARING UP:

HOW THE WHITES LEARNED THE "SECRET."

Yes, it was a dark, dirty, uncomfortable looking place enough, that room of widow White's! The walls were blackened by smoke, and the ceiling walls were blackened by smoke, and the ceiling and floor looked as if they had lost all memory of the existence of such things as sosp and water. The windows—why, they were literally stained glass, not precisely such as you see in churches, my young friends, but stained with smoke and dirt, and ornamented with various nondescriptlooking figures, by the fingers of little Dick White. The whole appearance of the room, the dust-incrusted cobwebs that festooned the wall, the rusty dingy-looking tin dishes and gracked the rusty, dingy-looking tin dishes, and cracked crockery, seen through the half-opened cupboard-door, the bushy, one-sided broom squatted behind the door, as if it had no other end or use but to accommodate a great, dropsical-looking spider in making his web from one wall to the other, were ufficient indications of that worst of all conditions, poverty combined with idle, slovenly habits, to say nothing of Mrs. White and her children, Letty and Dick. White! wby, they had better been been called Black, or Brown, or Gray, or Umber, for their faces and hands generally resembled either of these colors.

ber, for their faces and armas generally results bled either of these colors, more than they did a clear, healthy white.

Perhaps some of my readers will not thank me for introducing them to such a forlorn place and such miserable-looking people; but have patience, young friends, patience with me and them; we will carefully pick our way through this slough of slovenliness and want that encloses them, and perhaps we shall find, when the sun of awakened hope begins to clear away the fog, that they have minds as bright, hearts as open to all good influences, as any of the more fortunate children of

But we must be content to watch them awhile

know nothing about it. Mrs. White, with her hair stringing about her face, and several hooks missing on the back of her dress, sat rocking la-zily in an old, rickety-looking chair, casting occazily in an old, rickety-looking chair, casting occasional glances of deepair at the gaping rents in a
pair of Dick's pantaloons that lay upon her knee,
while the aforesaid master Dick, an urchin
of some seven or eight years old, after having
swept a space with the sleeve of his jacket upon
the littered floor, large enough for his operations,
had seated himself somewhat after the Turkish
fashion, and was very busy displaying his artistic
talents in sketching, with a piece of charcoal, all
manner of boats and watercraft, with a profusion
of rigging that would have puzzled Neptune himof rigging that would have puzzled Neptune him-

If holes on the elbow and knee are a mark of genius, as we have heard it asserted, then little Dick White might be set down as one possessing a whole mine of the pure ore, for he was seldom without one or both of these indices. Letty, a thin, slender girl of thirteen, with a mass of bushy, brown hair, which looked as if it was never combed or parted, but drawn in a zigzag manner across her crown, and gathered into a stiff, stubby braid, fastened with a piece of shop-twine, sat near the dingy window, sewing industriously upon some oarse garment.

There was an uncomfortable, fretful, impatient expression upon the girl's face, as she occasionally looked up from her work, and a querulousness in her tones as she replied to Dick's questions, that went to show that the darkness without was but the type of that within.
"Have you mended 'em, mother?" said Dick, as he saw her fling the pantaloons into an already

over-loaded chair in the corner of the room.

"Mended 'em, no; 'twould take a life-time to mend all the holes," she replied, impatiently.

"I've just drawn them up a little, so that they'll It's no use trying," she went on, crossing her

hands upon her lap, and rocking back and forth with a new impetus; "cloth don't wear any now-n-days—it's all made to cheat poor people—as soon as you get a thing made, there'll come a hole It's nething but patch, patch, patch, all one's life-time !" Now, Mrs. White must have been laboring un-

der a species of delusion, for neither her own nor her children's clothes gave any evidence of the truth of her words; in fact, they were proof pos-itive to the contrary. If she had said it had been "just drawing up a little, so that they would do,"
she would have hit the truth, for, poor woman,
she had been "just drawing up" things a little all
her life-time, but, unfortunately, nothing seemed

to stay drawn.

While she was giving vent to these exclamations, a neatly-dressed, cheerful-looking girl of about Letty's age came up the alley, singing the refrain of some old song, which was taken up and continued by a full, musical voice in the room above. The girl had a spade and knife in her above. The girl had a spade and knife in her hands, and on her arm a small basket containing a few papers to become gave a scale and a not to Letty as she was passing the door, which the latter answered by flinging down her work and running to her side. Dick followed with a skip and a jump, while the mother screamed after Degraficety, Letty, come right back, this minute! When do you think that work will be done, if you spend all your time gossiping in the street?" They don't mind me no more than the wind that blows," she continued sinking back in the chair blows," she continued, sinking back in the chair, from which she had partly risen in the hope of arresting their steps, "just as if I hadn't trouble enough without their plaguing me to death.

While the widow is bemoaning "her sad state," as the old ballad has it, let us turn to the

children on the sunny pavement. "There, there, Letty, your mother calls," said the girl with the basket, as the widow's sharp

"Letty!" again rang out.

"Never mind," replied Letty, "she's always calling about something. But tell me, are you really going to have a monthly rose—pot and all—and did the lady give it to you of her own mind, without your asking?"
"Yes, this was the way it happened. You see
mother washes for the family, and I go there fre-

quently on errands. They have a great glass room full of flowers." "A glass room, Abba!" exclaimed both the young Whites in astonishment. "Now you are

joking."

"No, indeed, it is a real glass room—at least, Slavery and Freedom cannot long exist tegether.

5. Resolved, That this bill, in offering a bribe to a mercenary commissioner of \$5 for every victim consigned to slavery, is a desceration of the very name of jurisprudence.

6. Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Conjurisprudence has been steadily developing into a system, the restry herogies of Fureign for a system that are the size of fureign for a system that are the size of fureign for a system that are the size of fureign for a system that are the size of fureign for a system that are the size of fureign for a system that are the size of fureign for a system that are the size of fureign for a system that are the size of fureign for a system that are the size of fureign for a system that are the size of fureign for a system that are the size of the size o and said, that was a white ten rose, and that it should be mine. The man that brings the clothes is to bring it when he comes next Monday, and she said it would blossom all winter if I took good

"And the lady gave you those seeds too, you "Yes, and I have been spading up some borders in our bit of garden, and planting them. Mother and I planted the potatoes and beans, and such

things, a week ago. How I do wish we had a garden-but, then, there is no use in wishing, for we never can have anything like other folks," said Letty, sadly. And why not, pray tell? You have just such a bit of garden as ours; you and Dick can easily spade it up, and there are ashes a plenty to put on to it, piled up in the corner by the door.

could make a famous garden in two days."
"You could?" said Letty, looking up in her face in a kind of astonishment. "Why, yes, and so can you. But you never will do anything till you try. I will lend you our spade and give you some seeds, and, perhaps, help you a bit; but there is mother calling and I must go now," replied Abba; "but come and see my

rose, and we will see about the garden."
The next day was Sunday, and widow White's room always looked more dreary, if possible, on this day than any other, for their clothes had been for a long time too shabby to go to church, and, as they had no books, the time hung drearily upon their hands Letty, in general a good-tempered girl, was invariably cross and irritable on Sunday. Perhaps the sight of the well-dressed girls that passed the window had something to do with this. Dick was restless and mi-chievous, and Mrs. White more than usually disposed to rail against her ill-luck, and the pride of all those who happened to be decently dressed.

To tell the truth, it was a great deal easier for Mrs. White to lounge in her old rocking chair, and complain of bad fortune, than it was to set about conquering that fortune by energetic and

well-directed efforts.

Abba Lester's mother was a tenant in the same Aboa Lester's motor was a tenant in the same house, and though equally dependent upon her own exertions, the contrast between the two families was like that between night and day. Indeed, to go from Mrs. White's apartments into Mrs. Lester's, was like coming out of a dark, foggy night into the clear light of morning—so neat, so orderly, so cheerful, did everything seem. Why, there was a whole world of cheerfulness in the fat, round face and broad shoulders of Mrs. voice, as she trolled out Methodist hymns alternately with scraps of old songs she had learned in her girthood—in the pleasant smile and elastic step of Abba, as she moved about, putting "things to rights" about the room—in the rosy faces of Sarah and little Nathau, fresh from the thorough ablutions bestowed by Abba's busy hands. Then, they were always cleanly and comfortably clad, though both their clothing and household furniture denoted the most rigid economy. It was evident that there was no just "drawing up things" there, but that everything was well done, and at

the proper time.

Mrs Lester pitied the condition of her neighbors, while, if the truth must be told, she felt quite ashamed of their slovenly habits, and was frequently mortified and vexed, when people mistook their door for hers. The good soul would willingly have gone in and scrubbed a week, if so long a time had been necessary, to have put their room in order, and she had several times been on the point of offering her services, but her courage

"Somehow, I don't really dare to do it, Abba," she was accustomed to observe on such occasions "for if anybody was to come and offer to clean my house, I should take it as a downright insult." my house, I should take it as a downright insult."

They were discussing this topic on the Sunday evening of which we have spoken, and trying to devise some plan to secure their object without offence to their neighbor, when Abba, after various suggestions, exclaimed:

"I have it, mother; we must talk to Letty. She is different from her mother, and, if I am not mistaken, would like to live like other folks; and I have minded that she has her own way when she chooses. She is coming in to morrow night to

I have minded that she has her own way when she chooses. She is coming in to-morrow night to see my rose, and we will see what we can do."

"Perhaps that is the best plan, after all," returned the mother. "I'll tell you what, Abba." she continued, after a moment's pause, "let us ask them all in here to tea to-morrow. We never have been very sociable with them, for I did not care to have people think we were over intimate, and perhaps this was wrong. At any rate, they are in the world, and must have a place somewhere, and the best way for us is to try to better their condition if we can. So, we will have them in here—and make our room as nice as possible, as a kind of hint. Then, let's see—we will have them in hered and butter, and some nice, fresh buns. Yes, that will do, and it will go hard if we cannot find some way to persuade them to live a little mot continue too long an editor of a party organ do good service yet in the cause of reform. Most men of all parties are heartily ashamed of some of our delegation to Washington; and the card of Representative Dixon, announcing that he will not be a candidate for reelection, is considered on all sides to be the greatest deed he ever eithed to be captered by the light do for his country's honor or prosperity. Senator Greene would get himself a great many bleesings, especially from his friends, if he would do the same heroic act. Our Legislature, at its October session, talked of electing some one would return James F. Simmons, who was at Washington a few years ago; and the Cotton-

From the Friend of Youth. SAILORS' REVENCE UPON A HAWK.

BY MARY IRVING.

"Wait till you hear my story."

"I never pitied a hawk but once!" said friend of mine, as we sat discussing "bird stories," on a pleasant winter's morning. "Pity! How could one pity a hawk? should have pitied the chicken he had

I was on the blue waters, under the bluer skies of the Mediterranean, sailing toward the isle of Cyprus. We were midway between the shores of Europe and Africa, quite out of sight of both. It was a calm, sunny spring day; the surface was just ruffled into tiny ripples, that broke the shadow of the idle ship, with her lagging sails floating lazily before the gentle south wind. Hosts of swallows, who had flown southward to find their winter quarters in Africa, were on their way back to the summer groves of Greece. The sky-you can have no idea of the soft, beautiful skies over those seas-was dotted with clouds of their gray wings. They flew low, and very slowly; and many of them, when they reached the masts of the vessel, alighted to take a rest. We amused ourselves by catching them, which we could do very easily, for their fatigue seemed to have completely tamed them.

My friend was holding one of the poor, tired

little creatures in his hand, and I was examining its plumage. The swallow rested quietly in his half-open hand, without even ruffling a feather, turning its half-shut eye up to him

confidingly. All at once a hawk, who was also on the ving of emigration, and who had chosen the tallest mast as his stand-point of observavation, made a swoop, and, rushing down between us, pounced upon the poor little bird, snatching him out of our very hands. Grasping his prey tightly, and wheeling around with a cry of triumph, he flew back to his watch-tower to feast upon the fruits of his

A burst of indignation went up after him from the deck. Sailors are generous creatures; and the little bird that had sought our protection was a sacred guest to them. The laws of hospitality had been outrageously violated, and vengeance must be taken forthwith.

My own heart, I must confess, swelled with anger against the bold robber. Hawks are much bolder in eastern countries than here in America. Possibly, this is because they are, like the stork, considered by all Mussulmen as privileged birds. They do abuse their privi-leges most cruenty.

We sent the nimblest of the cabin boys to

the mast-head, as our ambassador extraordinary to the invading enemy. He crept 22 like a cat among the shoulds, leaping from rope to spar skilfully and quietly, and, keeping always on the opposite side of the mast, he was hiden from our sight at length by the top-sail. We watched breathlessly until his head appeared again. "There, there!" cried the mate, tossing up

his tarpaulin, "Hurrah!" And "Hurrah" echoed every voice on deck. He had pounced upon the murderer at his ban-quet, and he waved him over his head in triumph as he slid down the mast. The hawk had bitten off the head of the poor

swallow, and held it in his bloody bill; the body of the bird was firmly clasped in his claws. He obstinately clung to his victim brough all our shaking and screaming. The sailors immediately called a council of war to decide his fate, and voted for Lynch law. But how should he be punished? Killing was too good for him! and torturing was rather too cruel for civilized men to think of

"The rascal deserves to be plucked and oasted alive!" exclaimed an indignant tar, owling up into the shrouds. "Aha!" We looked up after him, and saw the mate of the hawk sitting upon the mizzen mast, un-

"Up after her, my lad!" cried the seamen. Poor thing! it was rather cruel to make her master;" but she was not the first "wife" who had done it. The same boy glided up,

conscious of our plots, or of the capture of her

"You don't mean that he caught her, too!" "Don't shake your head so incredulously! I tell you it is true. She was, no doubt, exceedingly wearied, like the swallow, by the long flight from shore."

A second shout rang out. The sailors clustered around the two prisoners, venting their spite and triumph, while I looked on in wonder to see what they would do next. I was not long left in doubt. The mate drew from his pocket a stout piece of rope, a little more than a yard in length. One end of this he fastened to the claw of the criminal, and the other to that of his mate. "You've been no ianocent in your day, my

lady, I'll answer for it!" he soliloquized over "I'll chain ye with a clear conscience!" Having tried the strength of the string, he swung the hawks into the air, while a stunning shout went up from his comrades. The fettered birds, now bound together literally indissoluble, fluttered, struggled,

and pulled at first in the greatest trouble and dismay; but all in vain.
"Will they sink?" I asked, as with a feeling of real pity I looked after their once free

My friend shook his head. "A mere lingering death they will have of it; but they de serve it-the scoundrels!" They seemed to agree at last upon a sort of

ompromise, and rose slowly into the air, first one above, then the other, in a sort of swinging motion. Zig-zag, zig-zag, up and down, hither and thither, they floated away toward the shores of Africa, and were lost to our sight in the blue, boundless horizon!

A day was born. The eastern sky was marked with cold, dim light. Anon the faint, gray lines diffused; then they grew bright, and brighter, and brighter still, until they filled the horizon; then they climbed the unfolding sky, and lit the world with radiance. The glorious sun burst on the view, and heaven and earth lay bathed in gorgeous dyes.

The new-born morning smiled in blushing

loveliness, and nature drank the beauty of the

Ere long a tiny speck of shade hung far, far away in the ethereal fields. Soon it grew darker, and occupied a more extended space whilst a mournful sigh came floating through the vale. Anon the feeble sighing of the afflicted wind increased into a blast, a gale, hurricane, and then it swept over the world, roaring like a mighty cataract of leaping, boil-ing, angry, hissing waters; while that lately tiny speck spread wider, wider and darker, till it hung like midnight's mysterious gloom, world of blackness between the earth and sky. Then the lightning's blazing serpents fired the surcharged clouds, and the slumbering thunder woke, and split the heavens with ire, and rain and hail in torrents tumbled down. Revelling in his savage freedom, the storm rushed aroun the earth, dealing destruction in its course The world shrank beneath the direful change and tottered in her fear. So the storm came.

It passed. The golden sunlight pierced the clouds again and smiled once more upon the world below.

It soon chased the warring elements from the azure fields, and ere the day had waned, it was robed in all her former brightness. So it is with this life. The morning dawns,

and in childhood's hours our way is bright and blest. The day wears on, and, as we older grow, the storm-speck rises in our horizon, and clouds obscure our sky. Yet, still, life's sunshine beams above the storm, and though we bend beneath the fury of the blast, those glorious rays will dissipate the gloom, and shed their cheerfulness again around our checkered

Colliery, on proceeding one morning last week to their work at a " sinkshaft," found that the rope wrapped round the cylinder at the pitmouth had been cut nearly through in more places than one. It is reported that the wife of one of the pitmen told her husband, on leaving for his work, to examine the rope, for she had dreamed during the night that the rope had

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Sept. 13—3m

JOHN GUNDRY, Principal.

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